## For a Flag Unsullied---Need of Legislation to Protect Stars and Stripes

O N May 24. its one hundred and thirty-sixth birthday, the Star - Spangled Banner received the tributes of eloquent orators throughout the land of the free.

I have just had an interview with a man whose Pegasus during the past generation has borne him upon an indefatigable and unremittent crusade for the protection of the national emblem from the vandals who would sully

He is William Van Zant Cox, presi-

it. He is William Van Zant Cox, president of the Second National Bank of Washington, and—as concerns us more in this connection—chairman of the "committee on prevention of desecration of the flag" organized some years ago by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

This hobby of Mr. Cox appears to be congenital. The first bill offering Federal protection to Old Glory was introduced into Congress more than thirty-five years ago by his distinguished paternal uncle, Representative Samuel S. ("Sunset") Cox, of New York. Despite the cloquence and popularity of its framer, this measure died in committee, and now, more than a generation later, we find the nephew of its author still carrying on the fight for congressional protection.

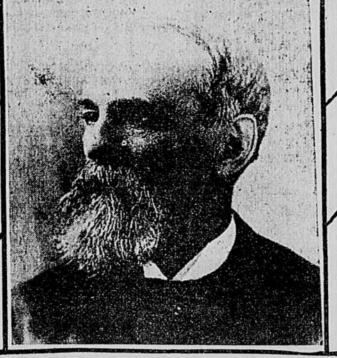
The Flag on Trade-Marks.

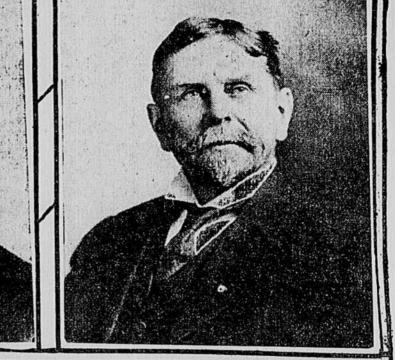
The Fing on Trade-Marks.

"While there is a growing sentiment throughout the country favoring a Federal law to prevent and punish the descration, mutilation or improper use of the flag of the United States or any representation thereof, no law has yet been enacted by Congress," Mr. Cox told me yesterday. "Indeed, there has been no flag legislation since the act of 1907, which, in authorizing the regisof 1997, which, in authorizing the registration of trade-marks in commerce with foreign nations and among the States, forbids issue if such mark consists of or comprises the flag or coat of arms or other insignia of the United States, or any simulation thereof States, or any simulation thereof.

States, or any simulation thereof. "It has been said that the flag is nothing but a piece of bunting, and needs no protection. But by those asking for its protection by legislation experiment, the emblem of civil, political and religious likerty.

"As a creation of Federal law it should be protected from insult and commercial degredation by Federal law. Americans owe it to the fathers who struggled and won independence that the flag should be sustained unsulting the flag should be sustained unsulting the flag should be sustained abroad, if it were insulted by roles for in patricule. Americans simply voice protest against debasing the





FREDERICK D. OWEN, President of the Society of Patriotic

Father of our first Federal flag bill.

a certain sacredness for all that. There South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and destroyed the entire edition

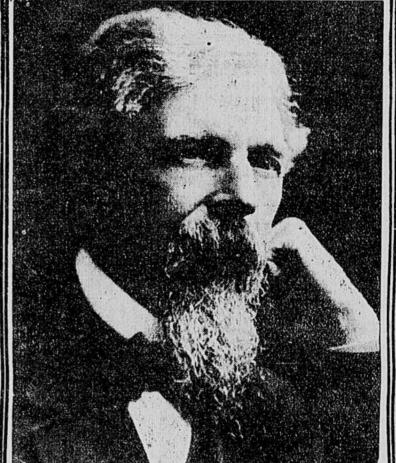
is some sentiment, but no politics, in the advocacy of a clean flag.

Ten Laggard States.

"Several bills to protect the flag for the flag and the notable decrease of the radvocaces, it is doubt-from horses are lattered and postal cards which deserved the flag. The State laws, however the flag in the number of illegitimate uses of full if the Webb bill which recently and the number of illegitimate uses of full if the Webb bill which recently and the number of These State laws have had eral thousand postal cards which dese-

voice protest against debasing the desceration. The States still without "In most instances the complaint Witherspoon, of Mississippi, and is now symbol of government. It may be a such laws are Alabama, Arkansas, has been voluntarily rectified. In one in the Committee on the Judiclary, wornout piece of bunting, but it has Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Oklahoma, case, in Colorado, the manufacturers "It is our hope that Representative

WM. VAN ZANT COX.



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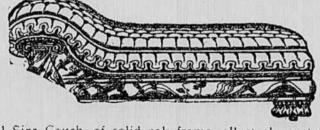
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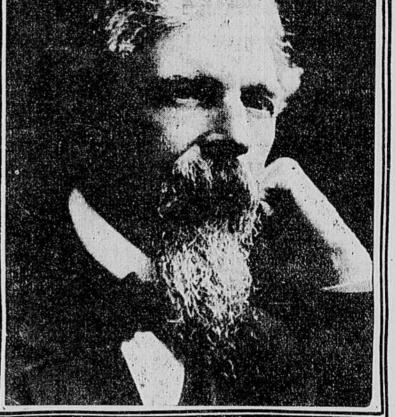
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REP. S. A. WITHERSPOON (Miss.), Author of flag bill now before Congress

naving this bill written into law as he ground for a menu of drinks, or wine

quiring resolution are of much in-

"This movement to procure flag leg-islation is now nation-wide. All of our patriotic societies and many other organizations favor it and some, like "If the government itself does r the Grand Army of the Republic, have appointed patriotic instructors whose duty is to teach the meaning of the flag and its proper use. If the members of these societies would agree on some one flag bill and work for its enactment, instead of for what some-times flavors of self-exploitation, the

Why He Took Up the Cudgel.
"What first inspired you to take up the cudgel for the flag's protection?" the flag, the following ceremony should be observed, said Mr. Owen:

ational banner as the back-

of such items of liquid refreshments are the United States, or any representation of them as an advertisement, trade mark or label, or for any purpose of gain, may be punishable by a fine of \$500 and a year's imprisonment. The same penalities are prescribed for placing upon or attaching to these emblems any device or inscription or any representation of any person or thing, as well as for tearing down, trampling upon or wantonly destroying them. An important paragraph of the bill provides that no 'copyright shall substituted that the recent congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution, in Washington, it was suspecised in the event of this paragraph's not being written into law that whenever the flag is to appear in a copyright the application should be passed on by a committee, of which the librarian of Congress should be chairman, in order to locate definitely the responsibility for issue of copyright descrations contrary to the respect due to the flag.

"The question whether any flag, emblem of the passed of the states under jurisdiction of the War and Navy Departments was recently brought up in Congress. The responses to the in proper and the man was ever great end of the man was ever great end of the war and Navy Departments was recently brought up in Congress. The responses to the in Congress as hould be respected to the flag of the congress of the light of the contract of the war and Navy Departments was recently brought up in Congress. The responses to the in Congress as hould be chairman, in order to locate definitely the responsibility for issue of copyright descerations contrary to the respect due to the flag is to appear in a copyright the application of the United States under the flag of the United States under the flag of the United States under the flag of the flag of the flag of the United States under the flag of the United States under the flag of the flag

"Indeed, the flag of our country, standing for the Constitution and for "The Secretary of War stated in a communication to the Senate. That 'at no time and under no circumstances is any flag, emblem or banner ever raised above the Stars and Stripes over any fort, encampment, building or ground under the jurisdiction of the War Department of the United States."

The Secretary of the Navy stated that the last edition of the Signal Code, published in 1908, contains the following, provision:

"The church pennant is to be hoisted over the ensign during the performance of divine service on board vessels of the navy."

"This movement to procure flag legislation is now nation-wide. All of and corsets. It is used in cheap res-taurants as napkins, sometimes as days

"If the government itself does not respect its symbol of sovereignty-the flag-its citizens will be equally un-patriotic," said Mr. Cox, in conclusion. "Let us. then, as a clean people, stand for a clean flag!"

### Proper Fing Etiquette,

Another zealous crusader battling for proper respect for the flag is Fredthirty-five years of war for a clean erick D. Owen, of Washington, presi-flag will not have been in vain. dent of the Society of Patriotic Decor Flag day, June 14, is now univer- ations and Civic Improvement. Thos sally recognized, and not to observe participating in ceremonies display it in the public schools is the excep-tion rather than the rule." day will be interested in some of the suggestions offered by him.

"In order to show proper respect for

"At 'retreat,' sunset, civilian spectators should stand at 'attention' and uncover during the playing of the 'Star Spangled Banner.' Military spectators are required by regulation to stand at attention and give the military salute. During the playing of the national hymn at 'retreat' the flag should be lowered, but not then al-

lowed to touch the ground.
"When the national colors are passing on parade or in review the spec-tator should, if walking, halt, and it sitting arise and stand at attention

"When the national and State or other flags fly together, the national flag should be placed on the right.
"When the flag is flown at half staff as a sign of mourning, it should be hoisted to full staff at the conclusion of the funeral.

"The national salute is one gun for every State. The international salute is, under the law of nations, twentyone guns.

"Whenever possible the flag should be flown from a staff or mast, but should not be fastened to the side of a building, platform or scaffolding.
"When the flag is used as a banner,
the Union should fly to the north on

streets running east and west, and to the east on streets running north and "When flags are used in unveiling a statue or monument they should not be allowed to fall to the ground, but

should be carried aloft to wave out, forming a distinctive feature during the remainder of the ceremony.

"On Memorial Day, May 30, the flag should fly at half staff from sunrise to noon and full staff from noon to

"In placing the flag at half staff, it should first be hoisted to the top of the staff and then lowered to position, and preliminary to lowering from half staff, it should be first raised to the

#### OLD POINT

OLD POINT

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Old Point Comfort. Va. June 7.—Old Point has been gay and busy the past week. The presence here of twelve of Uncle Sam's large battleships attracted much interest, while busy little launches were kept employed constantly carrying merry parties out to the ships for luncheons and dinner. Monday evening a beautiful dinner, arranged by Lleutenant Booth McKinney and Ensign Ted Blakesiee was given aboard the Wyoming for the wardroom officers. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Carroll. Misses Bessie Keily. Fannie Etheridge, Josephine Wrenn, Margaret Wreinn, Margaret Grandy, Dorothy Frame. of Norfolk, and Miss Rose Wood, of Baitimore. After the dinner the party went to the home of Lieutenant Guy Mix in the fort, where turkey-trotting was indulged until the early morning hours. The eighteenth annual convention of the surgeons of the Southern Railway, which was in session at the Chamberlin Tuesday and Wednesday, was attended by a number of prominent physicians, among whom were Drs. A. R. Shands and C. W. Hughes, Colonel W. A. Henderson, Dr. and Mrs. A. S. Maddox, Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Applegate and Miss Edith Foltz, of Washington, D. C. Miss Rose Wood, of Baitimore, has been one of the attractive belles spending the past week at the Chamberlin, Mrs. Norris, wife of Lieutenant Norris, of the battleship Florida, is at the Chamberlin for a two weeks' sojourn, Mrs. Norris was Miss Grace Newbold, of Baitimore, Lieutenant and Mrs. J. D. Whitman, to the regret of their many friende here, left this week for Honolulu, where Lieutenant Whitman has been ordered for three years' service. Lieutenant and Mrs. A. T. Watsen of lands.

Guy Mix is spending a few weeks at Atlantic City with Mrs. A. T. Watson, of Fairthont, W. Va. Mrs. Mix will go to the Thousand Islands the middle of June to Join a house party at the summer cottage of Mrs. Herbert Shipman. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Suel, of Baltimore, are among the recent arrivals registered at the Chamberlin.

Miss Madelon Becker, of New York, who spent the winter at the Chamberlin with her mother, Mrs. Arnold Becker, arrived Wednesday to visit Mrs. Paul Y. Tupper at the Phoebus mansion.

Among the guests registered at the Chamberlin this week from Richmond were Mr. and Mrs. William Ruffin Cox. Clarence Cabell, H. C. Cabell, Mr. and Mrs. R. Moore, Miss ida Moore, Miss Louise Lancey, J. L. Beveridge and C. L. Williams.

### **AMHERST**

tion the many foreign flags captured by our forces in battle

"The Witherspoon bill provides that any use of the flag or coat of arms of the United States, or any representation of them as an advertisement, trade mark or label, or for any purpose of another list of mixed drinks named mark or label, or for any purpose of another list of mixed drinks named where the control of the United States, or any purpose of another list of mixed drinks named where the control of the United States, or any purpose of another list of mixed drinks named where the control of the United States are the control of the United States and Farmylle and the control of the United States are the

### GOSHEN

